

Mr. JOHNSON.—Unfortunately a great number of third grade apples are marked as No. Two.

Mr. MERNER.—Well, the inspector should be punished for passing apples in that way.

*By an honourable Member:*

Q. You told us, Mr. Johnson, that the railway companies charge Canadians 60 cents a barrel more from Lethbridge to Medicine Hat than they do the Americans.

A. No, no, I think British Columbia has the same rate, but I said the Ontario shipper is charged 66 cents a barrel more.

*By Mr. Best:*

Q. Now the people of Canada have built these railroads and own them. Should not the railway commission get after those railways and compel them to give the Ontario shipper the same rate as the Americans?

A. I should like to see something like that done.

Q. The railroads are simply destroying Ontario apples. Surely it is time something was done to get fair-play?

A. I think so. I think there should be a vigorous campaign against the railways.

Q. Why not have a deputation wait on the commission?

A. Well we have laid several matters before the railway commission but have never got any satisfaction.

*By Mr. Armstrong (Lambton):*

Q. What about stop-over privileges in regard to the shipment of apples? Would it not be an advantage to have those privileges extended?

A. We find we have no stop-over privileges. It is a thing which we should have and which the railways should give to us. Cars and cars in our own district went to waste this year simply because we have no stop-over privileges. Seventeen shippers report that with stop-over privileges they could have disposed of 191 cars of fruit that was either teamed to station or not marketed at all.

Mr. BALL.—Well, if the railway commission will not listen to our appeals it is time the government was asked to take a hand with the commission.

*By an Hon. Member:*

Q. Just what do you mean by stop-over privileges?

A. Well supposing I am going to load a car with Baldwins and Greenings and I have got the Baldwins down the line fifteen or twenty miles away. If I had stop-over privileges I could have the car stop there and load them on, but as it is I have to team them up or pay the local freight rate which costs as much as teaming.

*By Mr. Thoburn:*

Q. Coming back to the question of rates, Mr. Johnson, do the Canadian railways charge 66 cents a barrel more for apples than American railroads for the same distance?

A. Yes, for the same distance.

Q. That statement only applies to the Province of Ontario?

A. It applies to Ontario.

*By Mr. Steele:*

Q. On shipments going West?

A. Yes. It means we are practically losing the trade of Saskatchewan and Alberta.

*By Mr. Thornton:*

Q. You quoted a rate, Mr. Johnson, from Medicine Hat to Winnipeg for American fruit, and you also quoted a rate from Medicine Hat to Winnipeg for Ontario fruit. Now would they not go over the same line of railway?